

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 16.

Please amend the following claim:

Sub 18. (amended) A self-locking bolt having:

a head having a locking function; and

a threaded part extending from the head and provided with an external thread of a pitch P;

wherein n locking recesses are formed at equal angular intervals in a bearing surface of the head, the depth of each locking recess from the bearing surface of the head decreases gradually in a direction opposite a fastening direction in which the bolt is rotated for fastening to a minimum depth, and an edge is formed at the joint of an end wall of the locking recess at a position at a maximum depth and the bearing surface of the head,

wherein when the bearing surface compresses a member contacting the bearing surface, the edge functions so that a portion of the member is forced to bulge into the locking recess in a small protrusion.

Please add the following claim:

Sub 23. (new) A self-locking bolt comprising:

a head having a bearing surface; and

a threaded part extending from the bearing surface and provided with an external thread of a pitch P for fastening to a first member when the head and threaded part are rotated in a fastening direction,

wherein there are n locking recesses at equal angular intervals in the bearing surface,
and

wherein depths of the locking recesses from the bearing surface decrease gradually in a direction opposite the fastening direction from maximum depths to minimum depths with edges of the locking recesses at junctions of the bearing surface and end walls of the locking recesses at the maximum depths of the locking recesses for bulging into the locking recesses protrusions of a second member that is between the bearing surface and the first member when the head and threaded part are rotated in the fastening direction.

By
(consult)